



It's Time to Graduate!

Presented by Pastor Daren L. Barron

Sermon Notes from May 30, 2010

- **There are subjects in our life that we finally need to pass.**
- **Some of us want the diploma of life without doing the required work.**
- **What are the issues you keep failing in?**

John 6:60-69 (The Message)

60 Many among his disciples heard this and said, "This is tough teaching, too tough to swallow."

61-65 Jesus sensed that his disciples were having a hard time with this and said, "Does this throw you completely? What would happen if you saw the Son of Man ascending to where he came from? The Spirit can make life. Sheer muscle and willpower don't make anything happen. Every word I've spoken to you is a Spirit-word, and so it is life-making. But some of you are resisting, refusing to have any part in this." (Jesus knew from the start that some weren't going to risk themselves with him. He knew also who would betray him.) He went on to say, "This is why I told you earlier that no one is capable of coming to me on his own. You get to me only as a gift from the Father." 66-67 After this a lot of his disciples left. They no longer wanted to be associated with him. Then Jesus gave the Twelve their chance: "Do you also want to leave?"

68-69 Peter replied, "Master, to whom would we go? You have the words of real life, eternal life. We've already committed ourselves, confident that you are the Holy One of God."

Hebrews 5:11-14 (The Message)

¹¹⁻¹⁴ I have a lot more to say about this, but it is hard to get it across to you since you've picked up this bad habit of not listening. By this time you ought to be teachers yourselves, yet here I find you need someone to sit down with you and go over the basics on God again, starting from square one—baby's milk, when you should have been on solid food long ago! Milk is for beginners, inexperienced in God's ways; solid food is for the mature, who have some practice in telling right from wrong.



Teaching

- **Pleasure** – enjoying the benefits of following the instructions
- **Pain** – suffering from ignoring or not knowing the instructions
- **Principle** – following the instructions
- **Psalm 119:130 (New Living Translation)**
¹³⁰ The teaching of your word gives light, so even the simple can understand.

Thinking

- Our thinking needs to line up with God’s Word, so when we are taught something the Word is our standard.
- **Philippians 2:5 (New King James Version)**
⁵ Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,
- **1 Corinthians 2:16 (Amplified Bible)**
¹⁶For who has known or understood the mind (the counsels and purposes) of the Lord so as to guide and instruct Him and give Him knowledge? But we have the mind of Christ (the Messiah) and do hold the thoughts (feelings and purposes) of His heart.

Testing

- **Your test is designed to promote you!**
- **James 1:2-8 (New Living Translation)**
² Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy. ³ For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. ⁴ So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

⁵ If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to you. He will not rebuke you for asking. ⁶ But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind. ⁷ Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. ⁸ Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

Testimony

- **Triumph or trial**



God wants you to graduate!

Hosea 4:6 (New King James Version)

⁶ My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge. Because you have rejected knowledge, I also will reject you from being priest for Me; Because you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children.

Proverbs 1:7 (New Living Translation)

⁷ Fear of the LORD is the foundation of true knowledge, but fools despise wisdom and discipline.

Proverbs 8:10 (New Living Translation)

¹⁰ Choose my instruction rather than silver, and knowledge rather than pure gold.

Proverbs 10:13 (New King James Version)

¹³ Wisdom is found on the lips of him who has understanding, But a rod *is* for the back of him who is devoid of understanding.

Proverbs 4:7 (New King James Version)

⁷ Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *Therefore* get wisdom. And in all your getting, get understanding.